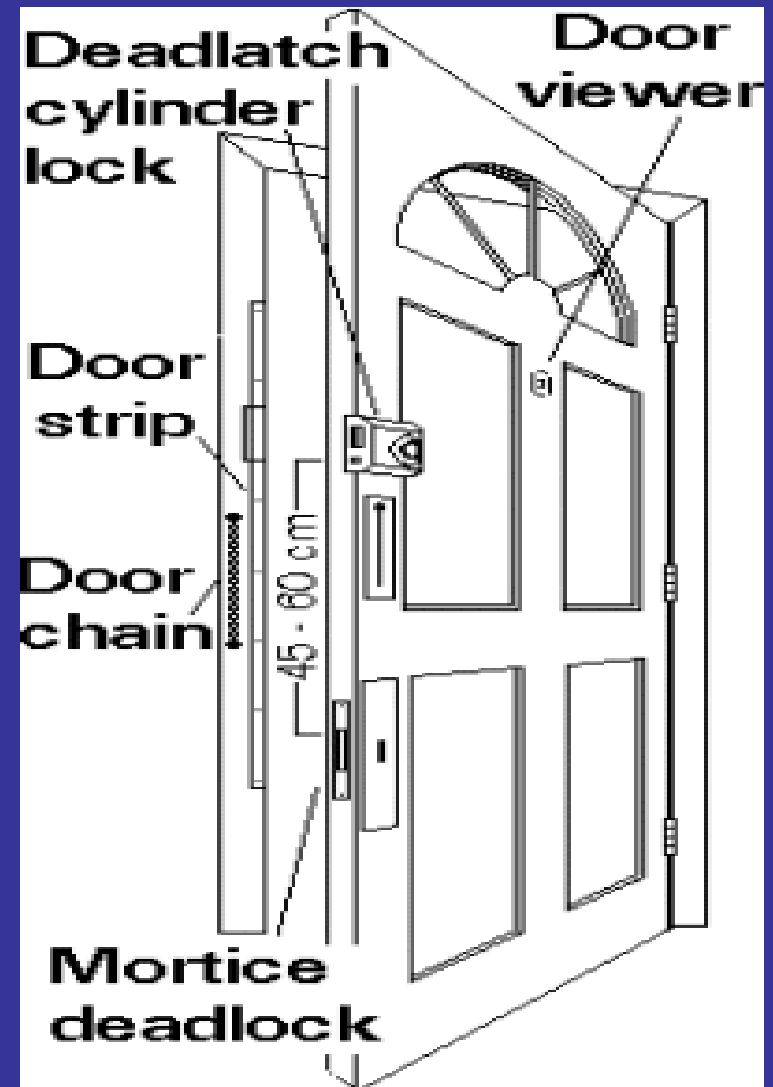


Doors and Locks

West Des Moines Police Department
Community Education/Outreach Unit
515-222-3333

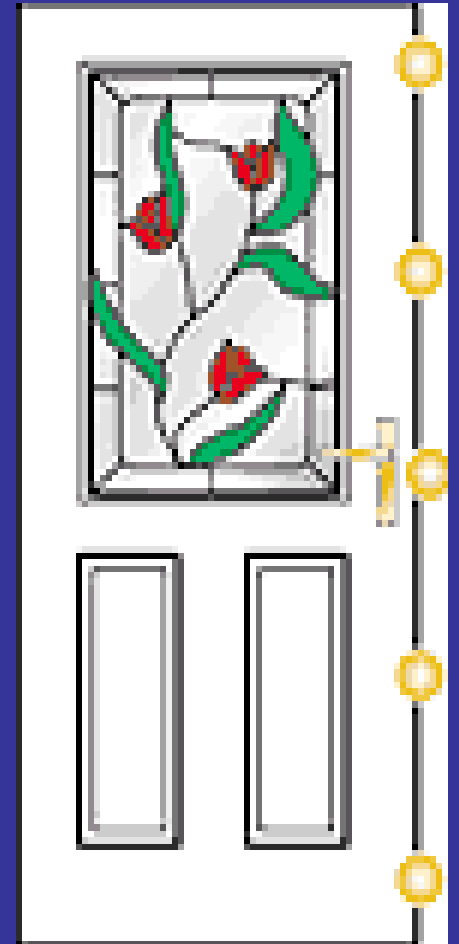
Entry Doors

- ◆ Entry doors should fit their frames tightly, with no more than 1/8" between the door and the frame
- ◆ Door frames should be solidly anchored to the rough opening
- ◆ Spaces between the door frame make it easy to kick the door open



Doors

- Exterior doors should be solid core (wood, not composite materials) or steel, 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick is preferred.
- Hollow core or wood panel doors can be easily broken.



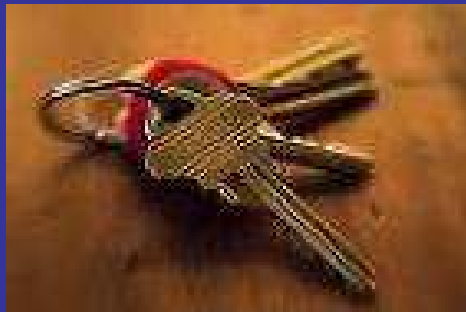
Keys

- ◆ When moving into a previously occupied home, all exterior doors should be re-keyed
- ◆ Keep keys secure at all times
- ◆ Never loan keys particularly to strangers
- ◆ When surrendering keys for any reason, only the car keys should be left



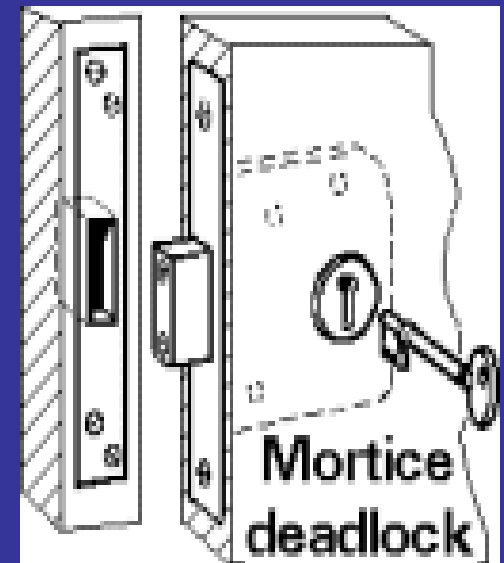
Keys

- Keys or keys rings should not be marked in any way tracing them to the owner
- Never hide a key outside, or hang it in plain view
- Lost or stolen keys should be reported immediately, and the doors should be re-keyed



Locks

- ◆ Key in knob lock
 - Offers privacy and convenience, but not security from intruders
 - Easily compromised by wrenching knob with hands, vice grips, credit cards, or by simply kicking the door



Locks

- Deadbolt Lock
 - Provides good protection for an entry door
 - The bolt should extend at least 1" from the front edge of the door
 - The connecting screws that hold the lock together should be on the inside of the door
 - The strike plate should be attached to the door frame with screws that measure at least 3" in length
 - The cylinder should have a steel guard—a ring around the key section

Locks

- Auxiliary Rim Mounted Lock With Deadbolt
 - Attached to a door's surface with long sturdy screws
 - The locking device on the door fits into the plate on the frame



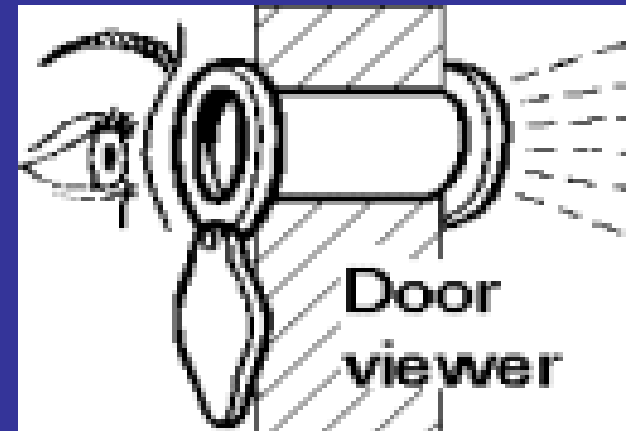
Locks

- Double Cylinder Deadbolt Lock
 - Can be placed on doors with glass panels or on other doors
 - Locks can be opened only with a key from either side
 - The key should be kept near the door but not reachable from the glass panel



Door Viewer

- ◆ Entry doors should have wide angle (180 degrees)
- ◆ door viewers to permit occupant to see callers-without opening the door
- ◆ Such viewers are inexpensive and easy to install



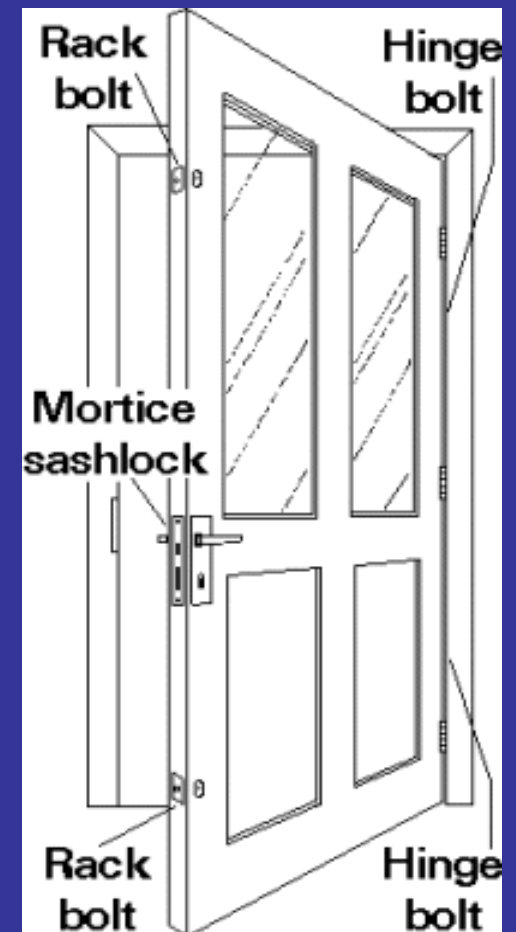
Strike Plates



- The strike plate is attached to the door frame
- Heavy duty strike plates installed with long screws (at least 3") offer good resistance against force
- Install with screws long enough to reach the stud behind the jamb
- Replace weak strike plate with High Security Strike Box

Hinges

- Entry doors that swing outward can expose the hinges, making it possible to remove the hinges to gain entry
- Replace with hinges that have non-removable pins
- Remove the two opposing screws (door and frame side) from the top and bottom hinges and insert a large finishing nail in the screw hole on the frame side, leaving the head of the nail exposed $\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ " above the surface of the hinge



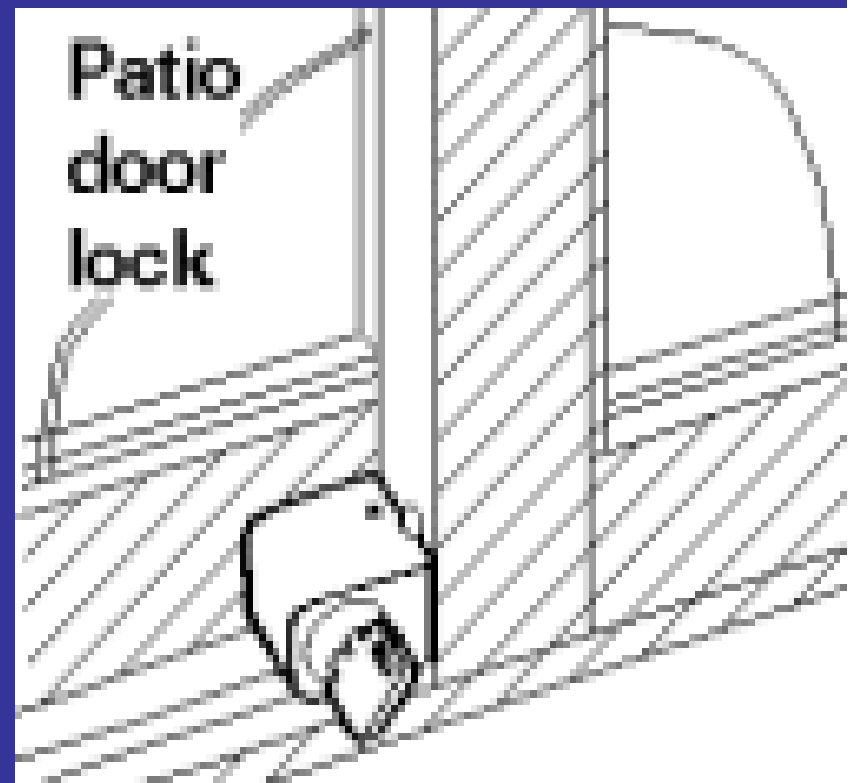
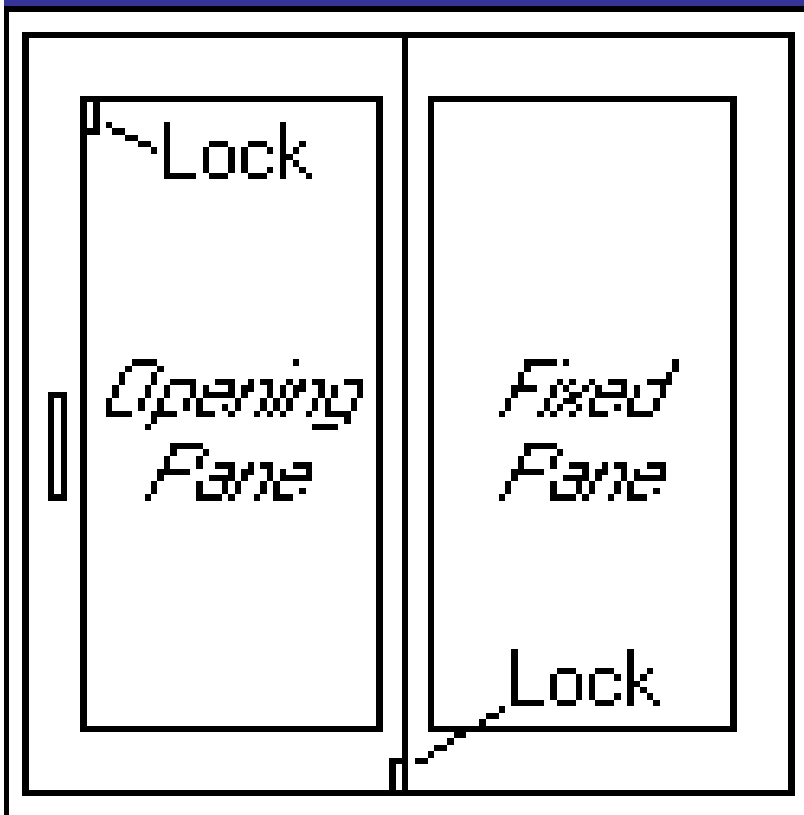
Sliding Glass Doors

- Sliding doors are easy for a burglar to enter if not action is taken
- Install wood screws in the track, and install an auxiliary lock
- An old broom or mop can be places in the bottom track to keep the door from being pushed open



Sliding Glass Doors

- There are a number of commercially produced locking devices for sliding glass doors-those operated by key are recommended for better security



Sliding Doors

